

Dear Commissioners:

Don't prevent states from fixing my cell phone problems. I am writing to oppose CG Docket No. 04-208 and WT Docket No. 05-194, which will unjustly take away the authority of states to tackle problems with cell phone service, including abusive cancellation penalties. Worse, the proposal will put in place a weak set of cell phone company-endorsed rules that offer no improvements in service or enforcement.

It's time to adopt policies that force cell phone companies to improve the level of service they provide to consumers. Cell phone companies are a rip off! They are less expensive to operate for companies because there is less hardware (no wires remember) and yet five times (minimum) more expensive than your land line home phone. In Thailand when they needed a national phone service they installed cell phones technology because it is much cheaper to install and maintain than land lines. Think about it, most of the satellites are already launched and compared to maintaining a national land line system, launching a satellite is cheap and simple. No property rights for cable and poles, no hardware, line men etc. I think you should nationalize those utilities like the post office.

Although CG Docket No. 04-208 purports to address consumer frustration with confusing cell phone bills, hidden fees and misleading advertising, the proposal does little for consumers. In the name of helping us, the agency is proposing to block states from passing their own pro-consumer laws. As bad, WT Docket No. 05-194 would bar state courts from enforcing state law when it comes to unfair and abusive cell phone contracts. That's going too far.

States are responding to consumer complaints. Don't stop them! And don't give in to adopting weak, industry-drafted rules in their place. The FCC should stand up to the cell phone industry, and respect states rights and strong consumer protections.

Sincerely,  
Charles C. Knoble